

VAN WORMER BROTHERS
ARE ELECTROGITE

Three Young Men Executed in New York For the Murder of Their Aged Uncle

Incident Recalls the Case of Three Brothers Who Were Hanged
1825 For Killing a Peddler.

ANNEMORA, N. Y., Oct. 1.—Without one accident to mar the perfect and dignified execution of a lifeless body from the chamber to morgue could not be heard.

Three applications of the current four minutes' time were required for the execution of Wills, but only applications of the full current

Governor Odell, Willis, Frederick and Burton Van Wormer were put to death in fifteen and one-half minutes at Clinton prison today for the murder

for their uncle, Peter A. Hallenbeck, at Greendale on Christmas eve, 1901. The men walked from the doors of their cells in the cave of their prison.

flanked on either side by prison deputies, with calm demeanor, but extreme pallor. Father Belanger, a picturesque figure, not in the usual clerical dress, but in a dark suit, in the presence of death he was accompanied by two priests, Father Charbonneau having no further need to remain in the cell room.

...there, not in the robes of his office, but in the everyday black frock coat of clerical cut, with a little purple stole about the shoulders, walked along with each of the condemned men.

During Drizzling Rain.

ing of the three Van Wormer brothers to their last day on earth. The condemned men did not sleep last night until nearly 3 o'clock this morning, but current was turned on at 11:47:30. One application was required, though was retained slightly longer at pressure than in the other cases.

Dr. Ransom, Spitzka and McDonough had carefully examined the other men's bodies, but in the case of Burton, the last other physicians.

than of this meal which we are about to eat. I would just as lief be the last one to go, for I know that I can stand the ordeal. I am not afraid." This

Keeper Murphy, who was in the cell room from midnight until 8 a. m., said when he came off duty this morning he was not said boastfully, but, very quietly.

"I tell you," said he to the Associ-

ated Press representative, "that the
were a lot more self-controlled than I.
Leaving out any question of their
guilt or whether or not they ought to
die, I have come to like those three
and fifty-four seconds.

STORM OF THE CRIME.

The Brothers Murdered Their U

Willis Van Wormer said this morn-

ing to Keeper Murphy: "I only wish there were three chairs instead of one, so that we could all go together. The hardest part of it all is the suspense, but we are all sitting on the electric chair of the three. Wormer brothers was unique in American criminal history. Only once before in this state is it recalled that two brothers have been executed together."

Keepers Murphy awakened the young men shortly after 7 o'clock this morn-

ing. They were a little dazed at first, sound sleep in the later hours having followed the restlessness after midnight, but almost immediately they returned to a state of tranquillity. The

were awake to a full realization of the fact that this was their last day on earth. Their new clothing was ready for them and they at once clothed themselves in the garb they were to

Old Man Shot Down.

They took no breakfast, in accordance with the Catholic requirement to come fasting to their communion, which Fathers Belanger and Charbonneau administered to them later. They

Partook of Communion.

Frederick, the youngest, who has a fairly riddled the body of Mr. Hall along been the least impressed of the three, and at all times has shown more beak. Mrs. Hallenbeck, the wife, bravado than the others, said to Keeper into the kitchen and the brothers at her but missed. Her husband Murphy as he dressed himself dored her to the ground.

"Well, I suppose by this time tomorrow we shall be in Kinderhook," evidently intimating that the brothers expect their bodies will be taken for

burial to their home. It would be difficult to imagine anything more impressive than the solemn service in the room of the steel cages where Fathers Belanger and Charbonneau, a Bill-

after 9 o'clock, administered to the three brothers their first and last communion, signaling their full acceptance into the faith of the Roman Catholic Church.

to have harbored bitter feelings and have made threats against their u. They were brought to trial before an extraordinary term of the supe-

A few feet away in his cell, under like condemnation of death, sat Allen

Mooney, the only other prisoner in the cell room, listening to the ceremony. He stands convicted of the murder of two women at Saranac Lake.

The routine of the prison was carried on with a break early today in contrast with the former custom of locking the men in their cells upon

Dr. Ransom, the prison physician, visited the condemned men in their cells this morning and closely noted their physical condition.

First, Willis, the oldest and most

impressionable of the three; second, Frederick, the youngest, who has seemed to be the most hardened; third, Burton, the second in point of age.

The court fixed upon the week of 6 for the carrying out of the death tence, but the Van Wormers have twice resipited by Governor Odell.

Willis Van Wormer entered the death chamber at 11:34:30, the current was turned into the body one minute later, and at 11:37 he was declared dead.

At 11:41:30 Frederick entered the death chamber, at 11:42 the current was turned on and he was declared dead at 11:43:30.

Burton entered the death chamber at 11:47, the current was turned on at 11:47:30 and he was declared dead at 11:48:30. The entire proceedings from the start of the first man from his cell to the last man from his cell took 11 minutes and 30 seconds. The execution was almost painless, and the men were nervous by the awful tragedy enacted almost within his hearing.

to the doctors' declaration of the death of the last consumed but fifteen and a half minutes; and no untoward incidents marred the execution of the law.

During the first execution Father Charbonneau remained in the corridor between the death cells reading prayers and invocations to the remaining Van Warmers. Every execution

had been taken to prevent the remaining men from hearing more than the departure of their brother from the room. The doors had been padded and

the interstices stuffed with cotton, so was the butchery of a peddler no
the steps of those who removed the John Lova.

